

GUIDE TO RIVER CROSSINGS ON “WEST KUNDERANG”

(To be read in conjunction with River Crossing Map).

- Do not cross river without prior permission. ***Do Not Attempt River Crossings in only one vehicle.***
- Refer to River Crossing Guide Signs indicating crossing closures on “West Kunderang”. These signs are located at the first and second crossings upstream and the first crossing downstream.
- Please remember all river crossings change with each and every flood event.
- Walk all crossings before attempting vehicular access. (NB: if water is above knee height and flowing DO NOT attempt vehicular access at any crossing).
- Locate in crossing, firm rock base, rather than fine/gravel or soft sand.
- Always be aware of rising water levels. (NB: it is always more difficult to drive against the flow of the river (ie. driving upstream) than driving with the flow (ie. downstream)). Debris floating on the surface of the water, white foam and dirty water colour, are all indicators of rising river levels. Place a marker (ie. stick or large identifiable stone) at waters edge when you first arrive. This is a necessary safety precaution allowing an easy and effective way to monitor changing river levels. Please be aware that “West Kunderang” is the confluence of several rivers making up the Macleay Gorges. Thus it may rain elsewhere in this catchment, but not at “West Kunderang”, giving no indication of a flood event.

DOWNSTREAM

FIRST RIVER CROSSING - MAIN RIVER CROSSING IN FRONT OF RIVERFLAT CAMPSITE.

- This crossing has clearly viewed entry and exit points. Entry is at the mouth of Station Creek dry riverbed. ***The best approach is with low air pressure in tyres approx: 20lbs (for all river crossings), 2nd gear low range crossing very slowly maintaining a constant forward motion.*** Do not rush this crossing as your vehicle will bury in the soft sand of the riverbed. ***Please ask before crossing this 1st crossing.***
- Locate previous tracks that have compacted the crossing.
- Generally stay within two metres (i.e. a car width) above the rapids on this first crossing.

THE BLUFF

4WD access restricted. DO NOT DRIVE ANY FURTHER THAN THE BLUFF LOOKOUT.

- For those unable to walk to the **Bluff Lookout**, there is a special concession to drive the 15 min 4WD trip across the 1st X-ing downstream through locked farm gate (key for access to be organized with Cindy before crossing the river). Continue approximately 400m further along track, follow sign to Bluff Lookout turning right. Follow track up a short rise, continue along track onto bluff for great views of “West Kunderang” camping sites and views up-river (highlighted on campsite map located on this page – click on map to enlarge). Allow 1/2 an hour for round-trip.

UPSTREAM

FIRST RIVER CROSSING – PAST MOYS’ CAMPSITE

- ***Original River Crossing*** has been ***re-opened*** & is directly in sight on track across shingle bed past Moy’s Campsite. This is a newly traxcavated track on opposite sandy bank. Cross river & drive up bank & then be ready for steep descent down other side. At base of descent veer right & drive along left hand side of teatrees before veering left up bank & traversing the Big Flat across to the Raspberry Trail sign & 2nd River Crossing access for canoes etc.

SECOND CROSSING – END OF THE BIG FLAT (3.5km from 1st X-ing)

Vehicular access past this point is for management purposes only. DO NOT CROSS THIS CROSSING IN A VEHICLE.

Access beyond this crossing into the wilderness area is for self-reliant recreation only (ie. bushwalking and canoeing). The Apsley River coming in on left hand side allows for pleasant *hiking* and *fishing*, as it has predominately shallow pools of water. The Macleay River on the right hand side is usually characterised by a faster flow with deeper pools of water, conducive to *canoeing* as well as *fishing*. Please refer to *canoeing pamphlet* for additional information.

RASPBERRY TRAIL – *Access Restricted*. Guided 4WD Access Only. This trip affords magnificent views across the Apsley and Macleay Gorges from a height of 800mm as well as views back down onto “West Kunderang”. Return trip takes 2 hours.

We cheerfully conduct regular tag-a-long tours on this trail for those interested – please ask for details.